

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please add the following claims 38-60.

38. A process for producing a preservative for applying to organic matter that will reduce the decomposition of the organic matter, comprising the steps of:

(a) producing a decomposition resistant hydrous cellulose pulp comprising wax and cellulose;

(b) filtering the decomposition resistant hydrous cellulose pulp through a very fine filter; and

(c) adding potassium sorbate to the filtrate at a ratio of one part of filtrate to potassium sorbate that is in the range of 0.1% to 5% by weight.

39. The process of claim 38 further comprising a step of adding citric acid to the preservative in amounts to reduce the pH to 6.5 or lower.

40. The process of claim 38 wherein the cellulose is obtained from virgin vegetable matter, waste waxed paper, new waxed paper, non-waxed waste paper, or non-waxed new paper.

41. The process of claim 38 wherein the wax is obtained from waste wax paper, recycled wax paper, or paraffin wax.

42. The process of claim 41 wherein the paraffin wax is food grade.

43. The process of claim 38 further comprising a step of adding a water dispersible non-ionic emulsifier.

44. The process of claim 38 further comprising a step of reducing the pH of the preservative to 6.5 or lower.

45. A preservative for organic matter comprising: a filtrate of a decomposition resistant hydrous cellulose pulp material and potassium sorbate.

46. The preservative of claim 45 wherein the hydrous cellulose pulp material is comprised of cellulose and wax.

47. The preservative of claim 46 wherein the cellulose is obtained from virgin vegetable matter, waste waxed paper, new waxed paper, non-waxed waste paper, or non-waxed new paper.

48. The preservative of claim 46 wherein the wax is obtained from waste wax paper, recycled wax paper, or paraffin wax.

49. The preservative of claim 48 wherein the paraffin wax is food grade.

50. The preservative of claim 45 further comprising citric acid sufficient to lower the pH to 6.5 or lower.

51. The preservative of claim 45 wherein the potassium sorbate is in the range of 0.1%-5% by weight of the filtrate.

52. The preservative of claim 45 further comprising a water dispersible non-ionic emulsifier.

53. A decomposition-resistant product comprising cellulose and wax, said product having been filtered through a very fine filter and further comprising potassium sorbate.

A1

Cancelled

54. The product of claim 53 wherein about 0.1% to about 5% by weight of the potassium sorbate is added to the filtered product.

55. The product of claim 53 wherein the product further comprises sufficient citric acid to reduce the pH of the product to 6.5 or lower.

56. The product of claim 53 wherein the product has a pH of 6.5 or lower.

57. The preservative of claim 53 wherein the cellulose is obtained from virgin vegetable matter, waste-waxed paper, new waxed paper, non-waxed waste paper, or non-waxed new paper.

58. The preservative of claim 53 wherein the wax is obtained from waste wax paper, recycled wax paper, or paraffin wax.

59. The preservative of claim 58 wherein the paraffin wax is food grade.

Respectfully submitted,

LAFF, WHITESEL & SARET, LTD.

Dated: 11/22/2000

By: Lisa C. Childs
Larry L. Saret
Reg. No. 27674
Lisa C. Childs
Reg. No. 39, 937
401 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 1700
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Phone: (312) 661-2100
Fax: (312) 661-0029